(d) Does not arise in view of (c) above.

(e) and (f) Since the traffic and revenue earned are showing steady growth, the question of revival also does not arise. Review is an ongoing operational task, including of the costing methodology of Speed Post. Further steps to improve the services in terms of number of value additions, like free pick up facility, door to door delivery, internet based track and trace, volume based discount, credit facility etc., are being provided over the years. The number of booking counters and offices with late hours of booking have also been increased. Special attention is paid to the marketing and promotion of Speed Post.

Percentage of FDI Inflow

2557. SHRI MATILAL SARKAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of investment made in the financial years 2001-2002, 2002-2003, 2003-2004 and 2004-2005 in the telecom sector including the amount of inflows of FDI and the percentage thereof;

(b) the significant developments made during this period and the position of teledensity of different States as on 31st March, 2005;and

(c) the programme in brief to expand networks in different States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) The information is not being centrally maintained. The total investment in the telecom sector during the period 2001-2002 to 2004-2005 is estimated to be about Rs. 1,11,000 crore.The amount of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) inflow during the corresponding period is estimated to be about Rs.5,830 crore, which is about 5.25% of the total investment in the telecom sector.

(b) Some of the significant development in the telecom sector during the period 2001-2002 to 2004-2005 are given in statement I (*See* Below) The tele-density has increased from 4.29 as on 31st March, 2002 to 8.95 as on 31st March 2005. The position of tele-density of different States as on 31st March 2005 is given in statement II (*See* Below).

(c) The goverment has set a target to achieve about 250 million telephone connections in the country by the year 2007. Of this target, about 50% phones are expected to be provided by public sector undertakings and remaining by the private sector operators. A drive has been undertaken by BSNL for cellular roll-out of 15 million connections in various zones. The roll-out has been launched in west, north and south zones; the roll-out in east zone will be in the first fortnight of September, 2005. The other telecom operators are also strengthening their roll-outs.

Government is committed to provide public access through provision of Village Public Telephones (VPTs) in all the 66,822 remaining unconnected villages by November, 2007 under the Bharat Nirman programme with support from Universal Obligation Fund (USOF). This excludes villages with less than 100 population or lying in thick forest areas etc. BSNL has been awarded the task to cover 13,366 villages by November,2005, 26728 more by November, 2006 and 26,728 more by November, 2007. 9,751 villages out of 66,822 have already been covered by VPTs as on 30.6.2005.

USOF also provides support for operation and maintenance of existing VPTs. provision of additional Rural Community phones (RCPs), provision of telephones 'on demand' even in the commercially unviable 1685 Short Distance Charging Areas (SDCAs) out to total 2647 SDCAs, up-gradation of 35,000 VPTs to Public Telecom and Info Centers (PTICs) for providing both voice and data installation of about 5,000 High speed PTICs.

Statement-I

Significant developments in the telecom sector during the period 2001-2002 to 2004-2005:—

- Telecom Dispute Settlement and Appellate Tribunal (TDSAT) was formed.
- Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd. (BSNL) launched nation-wide cellular mobile telephone services. Private operators also launched CDMA based moblie telephone services.
- International long distance service was opened up for private sector participation.
- Internet telephony was opened up in restricted way.
- Calling Party Pay (CPP) was introduced.
- Unified Access License regime was introduced.
- Universal Services Obligation (USO) Fund was established.

- Broadband Policy was announced.
- Internet Service Providers (ISPs) were permitted to provide Virtual Private Network (VPN) Services.
- Customs duty on majority of the telecom equipment reduced to zero as per India's commitment under Information Technology Agreement (ITA) under World Trade Organization (WTO).

Statement-II

The position of tele-density of different States as on 31st March, 2005

Sl. No.	Circle/State	Tele-density
1.	Andaman and Nicobar	12.63
2.	Andhra Pradesh	9.48
3.	Assam	2.79
4.	Bihar	2.36
5.	Chhattisgarh	1.80
6.	Gujarat	12.73
7.	Haryana	10.83
8.	Himachal Pradesh	13.12
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	5.09
10.	Jharkhand	2.30
11.	Karnataka	12.19
12.	Kerala	18.77
13.	Madhya Pradesh	5.21
14.	Maharashtra (-) Mumbai	9.96
15.	North East-I	4.33
16.	North East-II	3.66
17.	Orissa	3.96
18.	Punjab	21.94
19.	Rajasthan	6.12

Sl. No.	Circle/State	Tele-density
20.	Tamil Nadu (-) Chennai	11.21
21.	Uttaranchal	5.74
22.	Uttar Pradesh	4.06
23.	West Bengal (-) Kolkata	2.98
24.	Kolkata	24.22
25.	Chennai	47.56
26.	Delhi	50.94
27.	Mumbai	45.43
	ALL INDIA	8.95

Local dialing facility in U.P. and Uttaranchal

†2558. SHRI KAMAL AKHTAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the local facility of calling from landline to mobile and from mobile to mobile has been provided to consumers in Uttar Pradesh and Uttaranchal by BSNL;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the consumers of Ghaziabad and Noida coming under N.C.R. have been deprived of this facility;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) whether Government would provide the said facility to the districts of N.C.R. also ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) and (b) For the purpose of Cellular Mobile Telephone Service (CMTS) License, erstwhile State of Uttar Pradesh except Ghaziabad and Noida is divided into two service areas namely, Uttar Pradesh (East) and Uttar Pradesh (West). Uttar Pradesh (West) service area includes the State of Uttaranchal also.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.